

Institute for Policy and Social Research  
Center for Environmental Policy  
607 Blake Hall  
1541 Lilac Lane  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, KS 66044-3129  
785-864-9119

July 31, 2017

Dear EPA Freedom of Information Act Office,

With this letter, we wish to request specific information from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Freedom of Information Act. We previously requested similar information on June 23, 2014, and received information from Emery Harriston on July 1, 2015. We thank Mr. Harriston again for his assistance.

For the purposes of research, we request information stored in the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) database and the EPA Permit Compliance System (PCS) database as needed. From these databases, we request data for the time period between January, 1990 to present for all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) facilities located in the entire United States. We request data for all facilities meeting these criteria that have ever existed in the NPDES system during the above noted timeframe. If this condition cannot be met, we request that you identify the scope of the data that can be provided, e.g., data for only those facilities presently existing in the NPDES system.

We request data for individual permits only. We do not wish to receive data for general permits or master general permits.

We request that the following data for facilities meeting the identified conditions from the ICIS database and the PCS database as needed. Where historical data exist only in the PCS database, we request data from both databases in order to meet our temporal requirements. If an overlap exists between these two databases, we wish to receive only one record, i.e., we wish to receive data from either the ICIS database or the PCS database but not from both databases. As important, we request that the extracts from both the PCS and the ICIS be merged into a set of composite data extracts – one composite data extract for each for the following data groups – while identifying the data source – PCS or ICIS – for each relevant record.

For each facility, we request current and historical information on these data elements:

1. NPDES identifier
2. Version number of the NPDES permit

- 3. Permit status
  - 3.1. PCS
    - 3.1.1. Permit status
    - 3.1.2. Permit status description
    - 3.1.3. Permit status date
  - 3.2. ICIS
    - 3.2.1. Permit version effective date
    - 3.2.2. Permit version expiration date
    - 3.2.3. Permit status
    - 3.2.4. Permit status description
- 4. Compliance tracking status
  - 4.1. Compliance tracking status
  - 4.2. Compliance tracking status reason
  - 4.3. Compliance tracking status start date
  - 4.4. Compliance tracking status end date
- 5. Permit termination date
- 6. Agency issuing the NPDES permit

In closing, I wish to state that our research project operates within the Center for Environmental Policy of the University of Kansas and that we are requesting information for a scholarly purpose. As such, we request a waiver of all fees.

Thank you greatly for your assistance and consideration of our request. If you have any questions or concerns about our FOIA request, please contact me by phone at 785-864-9119, by email at [Earnhart@ku.edu](mailto:Earnhart@ku.edu), or by postal mail using the address shown above. I look forward to hearing from you as your schedule permits.

Gratefully yours,  
Dietrich Earnhart

Director  
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